

What is Claimed is:

1. A recording/reproduction apparatus for recording or reproducing data into and from a recording-medium assembly having a storage apparatus mounted thereon for storing predetermined information, said recording/reproduction apparatus comprising:

a plurality of information transmitting/receiving means for transmitting and receiving said information to and from said storage apparatus;

a switching means for switching said information transmitting/receiving means from one to another;

a reading means for reading out said information stored in said storage apparatus through one of said information transmitting/receiving means selected by said switching means; and

an information supplying means for supplying update information for updating said information stored in said storage apparatus through one of said information transmitting/receiving means selected by said switching means.

2. A recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said information is information on data

recorded in said recording-medium assembly.

3. A recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1 further having a medium accommodating means for accommodating said recording-medium assembly wherein said switching means switches said information transmitting/receiving means from one to another in accordance with whether or not said recording-medium assembly exists in said medium accommodating means.

4. A recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 3 wherein one of said information transmitting/receiving means is used for exchanging said information between said storage apparatus and said reading means when said recording-medium assembly exists inside said medium accommodating means while another one of said information transmitting/receiving means is used for exchanging said information between said storage apparatus and said reading means when said recording-medium assembly exists outside said medium accommodating means.

5. A recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1 further having a power supplying means for supplying power to said storage apparatus.

6. A recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said information is preset information.

7. A recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said information includes identification data for identifying said data recorded in said recording-medium assembly.

8. A recording/reproduction apparatus according to claim 5 wherein said storage apparatus comprises:

a storage means for storing said information;

a power inputting means for inputting power from a power supplying means;

an information providing means for providing said information stored in said storage means to said reading means through one of said information transmitting/receiving means; and

an information updating means for updating said information stored in said storage means with said update information supplied by said information supplying means through one of said information transmitting/receiving means.

9. A recording/reproduction method for recording

or reproducing data into and from a recording-medium assembly having a storage apparatus for storing predetermined information mounted thereon, said method comprising the steps of:

selecting one of a plurality of information transmitting/receiving means for use in an operation to read out or write said information from or into said storage apparatus through a selected one of said information transmitting/receiving means; and

reading out said information from said storage apparatus through said selected information transmitting/receiving means and updating said information stored in said storage apparatus through said selected information transmitting/receiving means;

10. An input/output apparatus for reading out and writing information on data from and into a storage apparatus mounted on a recording-medium assembly for recording said data, said input/output apparatus comprising:

an information transmitting/receiving means for transmitting and receiving said information to and from said storage apparatus;

an information reading means for reading out said

information received through said information transmitting/receiving means and stored in the storage apparatus; and

an information outputting means for outputting said information read out by said information reading means.

11. An input/output apparatus according to claim 10 comprising an information updating means for updating said information received through said information transmitting/receiving means and stored in said storage apparatus.

12. An input/output apparatus according to claim 10 wherein said information transmitting/receiving means transmits said information to said storage apparatus intermittently at a predetermined period.

13. An input/output apparatus according to claim 12 wherein said information transmitting/receiving means shortens said period at which said information is transmitted to said storage apparatus when information is received from said storage apparatus.

14. An input/output method for reading out and

writing information on data from and into a storage apparatus mounted on a recording-medium assembly for recording said data, said method comprising the steps of:

reading out said information from said storage apparatus; and

outputting said information read out from said storage apparatus.

15. A storage apparatus for storing information as well as transmitting and receiving information to and from an external apparatus, said storage apparatus comprising:

a storage means for storing said information;

a power inputting means for inputting power supplied by said external apparatus;

an information supplying means for providing said information stored in said storage means to said external apparatus; and

an information updating means for updating said information stored in said storage means with said information received from said external apparatus.

16. A storage apparatus according to claim 15 wherein:

said storage apparatus is attached to a recording-

medium assembly for recording data;

said storage apparatus is used for storing information to be added to said data recorded in said recording-medium assembly and/or to be used for updating said data.

17. An information processing apparatus for reproducing data recorded in a recording-medium assembly from said recording-medium assembly on which a storage apparatus for storing predetermined information is mounted and for processing said reproduced data, said information processing apparatus comprising:

a data reproducing means for reproducing data from said recording-medium assembly;

an information receiving means for receiving information stored in said storage apparatus from said storage apparatus; and

an information adding/updating means for adding information received by said information receiving means to said data reproduced by said data reproducing means and/or using said information for updating said data.

18. An information processing method for reproducing data recorded in a recording-medium assembly

from said recording-medium assembly on which a storage apparatus for storing predetermined information is mounted and for processing said reproduced data, said information processing method comprising:

a data reproducing step of reproducing data from said recording-medium assembly;

an information receiving step of receiving information stored in said storage apparatus from said storage apparatus; and

an information adding/updating step of adding information received at said information receiving step to said data reproduced at said data reproducing step and/or using said information for updating said data.

19. An information transmitting apparatus for transmitting data and predetermined information to a recording/reproduction apparatus for recording or reproducing said data into and from a recording-medium assembly, on which a storage apparatus for storing said predetermined information is mounted, said information transmitting apparatus comprising:

an information superposing means for superposing said information to be stored in said storage apparatus on said data to be recorded into said recording-medium



assembly; and

an information transmitting means for transmitting said data with said information superposed thereon by said information superposing means.

20. An information transmitting apparatus according to claim 19 wherein said information is information on said data.

21. An information transmitting apparatus according to claim 19 wherein said storage apparatus comprises:

a storage means for storing said information;

a power inputting means for inputting power supplied by a predetermined external apparatus;

an information supplying means for providing said information stored in said storage means to said external apparatus; and

an information updating means for updating said information stored in said storage means with said information received from said external apparatus.

22. An information transmitting apparatus according to claim 19 wherein said information superposing

